



City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF THE
CITY OF CHESTER.

On the Health of the City and the Work of the Health Department in 1953

BY

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
W. B. CALDER, F.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

and

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
OF HOOLE URBAN DISTRICT
M. E. RUSSELL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

INDEX

A

Ambulance Service	27
Atmospheric Pollution	41

B

Birth Rate	8
Blind Persons	30

C

Canal Boats	41
Care of Mothers and Young Children :—	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	17
Infant Welfare, Centres	17
Premature Infants	18
Dental Care	19
Dried Milk Foods, &c.	19
Unmarried Mothers and their Children	20
Chester Corporation Act, 1929	54
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Report of	38
Clearance Areas	40
Common Lodging Houses	41
Cysticercus Bovis	55

D

Death, Causes of and ages at	10
Dental Treatment	19
Diphtheria Immunisation	26
Domestic Help	31

E

Epileptics	31
-------------------	----

F

Factories Acts	57
Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938, Analyses	47, 50, 51
Food Establishments, Hygiene	39, 45
Food Inspection, Unsound Food	55
Food Poisoning	14, 47

G

General Death Rate	9
General Statistics	7

H

Health Committee	4
Health Officers	4
Health Services :—	
Special Survey	15
Co-ordination with National Health Service	10
Health Education	32
Health Visiting	22
Hoole U.D.C., Report of the Medical Officer of Health	50
Home Nursing	23, 24
Housing	39

I

Ice Cream	47
Infant Mortality	8
Infectious Diseases	12
Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children	19

INDEX—Continued.

	L	PAGE
Laboratory Services ... ..	...	15
Licensed Premises ... ..	...	48
	M	
Mass Radiography ... ..	...	30
Medical Examinations ... ..	...	36
Mental Health ... ..	...	32
Lunacy ... ..	...	32
Mental Deficiency ... ..	...	33—36
Occupational Training ... ..	...	33
Midwifery Service ... ..	...	20
Milk :—		
Analyses ... ..	...	52
Bacteriological Samples ... ..	...	52
Examination for Tuberculosis ... ..	...	52
(Special Designations) Order ... ..	...	45
	N	
National Assistance Act, 1948 ... ..	...	36
Notifiable Diseases ... ..	...	13
Notification of Births ... ..	...	22
Nursery and Child Minders (Regulations) Act, 1948 ... ..	...	20
Nursing Equipment, Provision of ... ..	...	23
Nursing Homes ... ..	...	20
	O	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	22, 31
Outwork ... ..	...	58
	P	
Pet Animals Act, 1951 ... ..	...	53
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care ... ..	...	29
	R	
Rag Flock Act ... ..	...	45
Resident Control ... ..	...	42—44
	S	
Sanitary Inspection of Area ... ..	...	38
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 ... ..	...	53, 54
Spastics ... ..	...	31
Staff, joint use with Regional Hospital Board ... ..	...	16
	T	
Tuberculosis ... ..	...	14, 15, 29
	V	
Vaccination and Immunisation ... ..	...	25, 26
Venereal Disease ... ..	...	15
Vital Statistics ... ..	...	7, 11
Voluntary Organisations ... ..	...	16
	W	
Water ... ..	...	37
Welfare Foods ... ..	...	19

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1953.

Chairman - - COUNCILLOR E. E. ASHTON.

Deputy Chairman - - THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN
ARTHUR CHARMLEY.

Members :

ALDERMAN CHARLES SCONCE	COUNCILLOR W. J. GRIFFITHS
(SHERIFF)	COUNCILLOR EMILY WARING
ALDERMAN DAVID R. OWEN	COUNCILLOR A. F. ESTELLE DYKE
COUNCILLOR E. J. LAWSON	COUNCILLOR P. G. COLEMAN
COUNCILLOR T. PRICE	COUNCILLOR H. A. A. HOWELL
COUNCILLOR L. EDWARDS	COUNCILLOR FLORENCE M. GROGAN
COUNCILLOR A. W. WALL	COUNCILLOR J. B. MATTHEWS

Co-opted Members :

DR. W. GILCHRIST. DR. C. K. SCONCE.
B. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ., O.B.E., M.I.P.E.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.....	D. F. Morgan, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	Ivy F. Fallon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Food In- spector, Factory Acts Supervision, etc.	*†W. B. Calder, F.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector...	*†G. E. Jarvis, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.
District Additional Sanitary In- spectors	*M. G. H. Tresidder, C.R.S.I. †*R. B. Powell, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A. †G. Woods, M.S.I.A. Resigned 31/10/53. O. C. R. Roberts, M.S.I.A. Commenced 1/12/53.
Assistant District Inspector	H. J. Hewitt, M.S.I.A.
Public Abattoir Superintendent and Additional Sanitary Inspector	*J. H. Withington, M.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor and Non-Medical Supervisor of Mid- wives	§Miss M. H. Beattie, S.R.N., H.V.C.
Superintendent Home Nursing Ser- vice	§Miss M. H. Greenwood, S.R.N., Q.N.

Health Visitors	§ Mrs. M. T. Slater, S.R.N., H.V.C. § Mrs. M. McGovern, S.R.N., H.V.C. § Miss M. W. Wright, S.R.N., H.V.C. Miss M. Hughes, S.R.N., H.V.C. Commenced 22/9/52. Mrs. H. Bradley, S.R.N., H.V.C. Commenced 1/1/53. Miss N. Crammond, S.R.N., H.V.C. Commenced 12/1/53.
Clinic Nurse	Miss A. J. Chesters, S.R.N. Resigned 6/6/53. Miss Z. K. Wilkins, S.R.N., H.V.C. (Commenced 12/10/53).
Municipal Midwives	Miss Ashton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. Rawlins, S.C.M. Miss Phillips, S.C.M. Mrs. Samuels, S.C.M. Mrs. Gaulton, S.C.M. Mrs. N. M. M. Goodson, S.C.M.
Domestic Help Organiser	Miss M. H. Ashley.
Chief Clerk	R. W. Hudson.
Clerks	T. D. Blyth W. J. O. Lewis (School Medical Service).
Shorthand Typist and Clerk	Miss A. Turner. Mrs. A. Colley.
Clinic Clerk	Miss M. Ruscoe (Part-time School Medical Service).
Junior Clerk	T. Chetwood.
Rodent Control Staff	A. J. Robinson (Foreman). 2 Operatives.

† Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection.

* Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection.

§ Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

Health Department,
St. Martin's House,
Chester.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1953 and have retained in it some details of the services provided by the Local Health Authority which were the subject of a special survey last year.

The chief staff changes were among the Health Visitors and the Clinic Nurse was replaced by a full-time Health Visitor/School Nurse. We have been fortunate in being able to keep the Department fully staffed in spite of the shortage of Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors.

The scheme for the Care of Mothers and young Children was revised as also were assessments under the Domestic Help Scheme.

Driving tuition was provided for District Nurses to enable them to cope with emergency and outlying cases.

A Sitting Case Ambulance was purchased for the Ambulance Service.

The Mobile Mass Radiography Unit of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board visited the City. Details are given in the Report.

In November, 1953, the Health Committee was able to open the Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives at Boughton and Dr. T. Lloyd Hughes, Senior Administrative Medical Officer of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board spoke at the opening ceremony.

The proposal to extend the City Boundary received consideration and plans were made for increments and alterations in Staff and Services consequent upon the proposal.

This Annual Report would not be complete without expression of my gratitude for your constant guidance and support throughout the year and my sincere appreciation of the loyal service given by the Staff of the Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. F. MORGAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	4142
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	48200
Population (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	48229
Number of inhabited houses end of 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	13085
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£440014
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1796

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—

	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1000 Population
Legitimate	394	382	776	
Illegitimate	33	22	55	
Totals	427	404	831	17.2

Still Births—

	Still Birth Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births
8	21.2
10	
18	

Deaths—

	Death Rate per 1000 Population
All causes	10.8
264	
257	
521	

Deaths of Infants under one year old—

	Death Rate per 1000 Live Births
All Infants	32.4
18	
9	
27	
	Death Rate per 1000 legitimate Live Births
Legitimate Infants	30.7
15	
9	
24	
	Death Rate per 1000 illegitimate Live Births
Illegitimate Infants	54.5
3	
0	
3	

Deaths from Certain Causes—

	Death Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still) Births
All Maternal Causes	0.0
Nil	
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.18
5	
4	
9	
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.02
0	
1	
1	
	Death Rate per 1000 Population
Cancer	1.97
55	
40	
95	

BIRTH RATE

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population was 17.2.

Comparative figures are as follows :—

England and Wales	15.5
Great Towns	17.0
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	15.7
CHESTER (area comparability factor (0.95) applied)	16.3

Still Births allocated to the City numbered 18, giving a rate of 21.2 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This figure compared with 22.3 in 1952.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population :—

England and Wales	0.35
Great Towns	0.43
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	0.34
CHESTER	0.37

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 27 deaths in infants under 1 year compared with 19 in 1952. The mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 32.4 compared with 22.2 in 1952.

Comparative figures are as follows :—

England and Wales	26.8
Great Towns	30.8
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	24.3
CHESTER (area comparability factor (1.02) applied)	33.04

The actual causes of death in these 27 cases were as follows :—

	(1952)	1953
Whooping Cough	—	1
Measles	—	—
Bronchitis	—	1
Pneumonia	4	3
Gastro-enteritis, diarrhoea	—	1
Other digestive diseases	—	—
Premature Births	9	8
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Disease	5	5
Tubercular Meningitis	1	—
All Other Causes	—	8

The increase from 19 in 1952 to 27 is shown as being due to "all other causes" (Registrar General's Classification). Analysis of these causes of death shows :—

- 4 were due to shock and various injuries at birth ;
- 2 were due to cerebral tumours ;
- 2 were due to haemolytic disease of the new-born.

GENERAL DEATH RATE

There were 521 deaths in Chester residents giving a death rate of 10.8 per 1,000 population.

Comparative figures are as follows :—

England and Wales ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.4
Great Towns ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.2
Smaller Towns ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
CHESTER (comparability factor (1.02) applied ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.01

The crude Death Rate of 10.8 is the lowest ever recorded in Chester (i.e. since 1867). In 1928 the crude figure of 11.4 was adjusted by comparability factor to 10.8. This year the Crude Death Rate, adjusted by the comparability factor is 11.0, which is, therefore, the second lowest corrected Death Rate ever recorded.

(Note: The area comparability factors, given annually by the Registrar General for (a) Births and (b) Deaths are used to adjust the crude Birth and Death rates for age and sex distribution of the population).

284 deaths or 54 per cent. occurred in the age group 65 years and over.

Heart disease accounted for 175 deaths and other circulatory conditions for 16 deaths.

Bronchitis was the cause of death in 23 cases, pneumonia in 17 and other respiratory conditions in 4 cases.

Cancer accounted for 95 deaths of which 42 were in the age group of 65 years and over, and 20 were of the lung or bronchus.

There were 9 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 death from other causes of tuberculosis.

It is gratifying to note that there were no deaths from Diphtheria, Meningococcal Infection, Poliomyelitis or Measles and only one from Whooping Cough.

Cause of Death.		At all Ages	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—45	45—65	65 and Over
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	5	—	—	—	1	3	1
	F	4	—	—	—	2	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, Other	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
10. Cancer, Stomach	M	17	—	—	—	2	8	7
	F	7	—	—	—	—	2	5
11. Cancer, Lung, Bronchus	M	16	—	—	—	—	9	7
	F	4	—	—	—	—	2	2
12. Cancer, Breast	F	5	—	—	—	—	3	2
13. Cancer, Uterus	F	5	—	—	—	—	3	2
14. Cancer, Other	M	22	—	—	—	—	8	14
	F	19	—	—	—	3	8	8
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	30	—	—	—	1	8	21
	F	34	—	—	1	—	6	27
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	39	—	—	—	—	13	26
	F	17	—	—	—	—	4	13
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	9	—	—	—	—	6	3
	F	7	—	—	—	—	2	5
20. Heart Disease, Other	M	37	—	—	—	1	21	15
	F	66	—	—	—	2	29	35
21. Other Circulatory Disorders ...	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
	F	10	—	—	—	—	3	7
22. Influenza	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
23. Pneumonia	M	8	2	—	—	—	2	4
	F	9	1	—	—	—	2	6
24. Bronchitis	M	18	1	—	—	—	3	14
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
25. Other Respiratory	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	3	—	—	—	1	—	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	3	1	—	—	—	1	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
30. Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	M	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
	F	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	26	11	1	—	4	5	5
	F	26	5	—	—	2	5	14
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	3	—	2	—	1	—	—
	F	4	—	—	—	2	—	2
34. All Other Accidents	M	5	—	2	—	—	1	2
	F	12	—	—	1	2	—	9
35. Suicide	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR 1953 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Deaths under One Year,	Rate per 1000 Live Births.
1939	45090	728	15.6	611	13.8	54	77.3
1940	46960	731	15.7	681	15.2	48	64.7
1941	47500	748	15.7	608	12.8	62	82.1
1942	46570	759	16.3	566	12.1	52	68.5
1943	45410	770	16.9	576	12.6	41	53.2
1944	43880	825	18.8	579	13.2	56	67.8
1945	44430	807	18.1	604	13.5	64	79.3
1946	46460	917	19.7	598	12.8	54	58.8
1947	47190	1046	22.1	661	14.0	84	81.2
1948	47190	863	18.2	575	12.2	32	37.1
1949	47470	886	18.6	578	12.1	29	32.7
1950	48680	795	16.4	564	11.5	16	20.1
1951	47600	780	16.4	646	13.5	33	42.3
1952	47900	854	17.8	538	11.2	19	22.2
1953	48200	831	17.2	521	10.8	27	32.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

375 cases of measles and 127 of whooping cough were notified. The figures for 1952 were 124 and 128 respectively. Scarlet Fever cases numbered 20 compared with 28 in 1952.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified.

Food poisoning notifications totalled 48, details of which are shown under the relevant heading.

Comparative notification figures per 1,000 population :—

Notifications				England and Wales	Great Towns	Smaller Towns	Chester
				(Rates per 1,000 Population)			
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1.39	1.50	1.44	0.42
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	3.58	3.72	3.38	2.60
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.04
Smallpox	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	12.36	11.27	12.32	7.77
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.42
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polio encephalitis)—							
Paralytic	...	...	...	0.07	0.06	0.06	1.87
Non Paralytic	...	...	...	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.99
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia per 1,000 (Live and Still)							
Births	...	...	...	18.23	24.33	12.46	4.71

FOOD POISONING.

Special mention is made of this disease because of its ever present threat (especially in a centre such as Chester), because of its "preventability", and because notification of cases must be immediate if effective action is to be taken.

There was one outbreak only, the number of notified cases being 24. The causative organism (*Salmonella Typhi murium*) was traced to imported tinned ham. Carriers and cases were treated by their own medical practitioners and followed up until found to be free from infection. No deaths occurred but several patients were very ill.

The remainder of the notified cases were single cases in which it was generally not possible to establish the cause.

I would emphasise the necessity for immediate notification in Food Poisoning and, in cases of doubt it is better to have a notification, subsequently cancelled, than to miss a single carrier who may give rise to widespread distress and tragedy in future years.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 require that new notifications be accepted by the authority in whose area the case is first notified. Details of such notifications are as follows:—

Total of new cases notified (see table)	...	...	...	...	79
Not normally resident in City	...	...	...	...	14
					65
Normally resident but notified to other authorities	...	...	...	...	3
Total of new cases normally resident in City	...	...	...	...	68

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
2—	...	...	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
20—	...	...	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
25—	...	...	6	6	2	0	1	1	0	0
35—	...	...	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	7	4	0	0	3	1	0	0
55—	...	...	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
75—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	30	27	6	7	5	4	0	1

An account of Preventive and After-Care work is given under Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, later in the report.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172.

There has been no occasion to enforce removal to Hospital of a patient suffering from respiratory Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

A clinic is held at Chester Royal Infirmary at the following times :

Monday (5—7 p.m.) Female.

Wednesday (5—7 p.m.) Male.

Thursday (5—7 p.m.) Female.

Saturday (12—2 p.m.) Male.

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during each year for the last five years :—

					1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	10	15	13	6	5
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	12	9	6	13	12
Conditions other than Venereal	...				36	34	45	27	43
					—	—	—	—	—
					58	58	64	46	60
					—	—	—	—	—

The 1953 figures include Chester patients attending the Liverpool Seamen's Dispensary, details of whom are here shown separately :—

Syphilis—Nil, Gonorrhoea—1, Other—5, Total—6.

Where contact histories have been notified to the Department, efforts have been made to trace the carrier of venereal disease. Often, on the most vague and unpromising evidence, it has been possible to locate the carrier and persuade him or her to attend at the V.D. Clinics for treatment. The co-operation of the Military authorities has been greatly welcomed in notifying and getting information about the carriers and it is hoped that, where necessary, the V.D. Clinics will establish similar liaison with the Department.

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Pathological Departments of the Chester City Hospital, the Royal Infirmary and the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Birkenhead have continued to examine all types of specimens sent either by general practitioners or the Health Department.

There is excellent co-operation between the Laboratories and the Health Department.

SURVEY OF LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

1. Administration.

The Medical Officer of Health is directly responsible to the Health Committee of the City Council for the control, supervision and co-ordination of all the Health Services of the Authority. There are no agency arrangements in Chester, and all the services under Part III of the National Health Service Acts are provided directly by the Authority except the residential after-care of Tuberculosis Patients, which is provided in Cheshire County Council establishment at Wrenbury Hall Colony.

2. *Co-ordination and Co-operation with other parts of the National Health Service.*

Two members of the Health Committee serve on the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, while four members are on the various Hospital Management Committees. On the Chester Executive Council are six members of the Health Committee.

The Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Chester & District Hospital Management Committee, and also of the Local Medical Committee of the Executive Council. A Liaison Committee, consisting of officers of the Regional Hospital Boards (Liverpool and Manchester) and Medical Officers of Health of Local Health Authorities meets approximately monthly.

Owing to its relatively small size and the fact that about 40 doctors are in General Medical Practice within the City, it has not been considered necessary to advertise to the general public or practitioners the Part III Services, nor has a guide book been printed.

Co-ordination between Health Visitors, Midwives, Nurses and the Hospital and general Medical Practitioners will be dealt with under the respective headings to follow.

3. *Joint use of Staff.*

The Medical Staff of the Authority consists of the Medical Officer of Health and, at present, one Assistant Medical Officer of Health. The Authority, therefore, have arrangements with the Regional Hospital Board for the employment at the Ante Natal Clinic of the Obstetrical Registrar of the Chester City Hospital on one session per week, and for preventive and after-care work in Tuberculosis, the services of the Tuberculosis Medical Officer on one session per week. The latter is of S.H.M.O. grade.

Neither of the Authority's Medical Officers are employed by the Hospital or General Medical Service Authorities.

4. *Voluntary Organisations.*

All Part III Services are supplied by the Authority directly, but valuable assistance has been obtained from Voluntary Organisations.

Vacancies in various Voluntary Mother & Baby Homes have been found by the Chester & District Moral Welfare Association who carried out the field work for the patients, and, during 1953, four cases were thus accommodated.

Orthopaedic After Care cases were referred to the Committee of the Chester Council of Social Welfare.

Members of the Chester Infant Welfare Society gave assistance at the Infant Welfare Clinics on two afternoons weekly at the Central Clinic.

Subscriptions and grants were made to various Voluntary Organisations.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22).

(i) *Expectant and Nursing Mothers.*

An Ante Natal Clinic (1 session per week) was held at the Princess Street Clinic, attended by the Obstetrical Registrar of the Chester City Hospital. Most of the "cases" have been unmarried mothers from the local Mother & Baby Home (run by the District Moral Welfare Association), whose confinements were booked at the City Hospital. Some difficulty has been experienced in getting other cases to attend, i.e. cases to be confined in their own homes under the General Practitioner Services.

Attendances, which averaged six per session, were as follows :—

Number of Mothers seen by Doctor	...	48
Number of attendances	...	209
Number of post natal cases	...	41

(ii) *Infant Welfare.*

The Clinics were open on two sessions per week at St. Martin's House, one at Blacon and one at Saltney and were attended by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health. Cases requiring medical attention were referred to their own doctors.

Attendance figures in the following tables, with the previous year's for comparison, show a maintained upward trend with regard to Blacon.

ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	(1952)	1953
(a) By children under 1 year of age	(3804)	3801
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(1199)	1042
(c) By mothers	(4842)	4349
Consultations with the Medical Officer :—		
(a) First visits of children under one year	(317)	325
(b) Subsequent visits	(559)	512
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	(36)	49
(d) Subsequent visits	(195)	174
(e) Mothers	(28)	24

SALTNEY INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	(1952)	1953
(a) By children under 1 year of age	(1002)	953
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(230)	210
(c) By mothers	(1159)	1143

Consultations with Medical Officer :—

(a) First visits of children under one year	(87)	85
(b) Subsequent visits	(194)	192
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	(7)	11
(d) Subsequent visits	(55)	45
(e) Mothers (consultations)	(11)	4

BLACON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The following attendances were made during the year :—

	(1952)	1953
(a) By children under 1 year of age	(977)	1149
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	(294)	246
(c) By mothers	(1224)	1395

Consultations with the Medical Officer :—

(a) First visits of children under one year	(67)	105
(b) Subsequent visits	(113)	97
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	(9)	13
(d) Subsequent visits	(29)	47
(e) Mothers (consultations)	(5)	3

(iii) *Premature Infants.*

The Premature Baby Unit at the City Hospital was able to cope with most babies below $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. so that few were nursed at home. Such nursing equipment as was necessary in the home was available on loan from the District Nurses' Home.

By arrangement with the Physician-in-Charge, the Health Visitors attended at the Premature Baby Unit of the Hospital. Staff shortages prevented as full attendance as would have been liked. On discharge home, Premature Babies were visited by the Health Visitors.

(iv) *Supply of Dried Milks, etc.*

National Dried Milk and all Welfare Foods and nutrients under the Government Welfare Foods Scheme are available at all the Infant Welfare Clinics. Clerical work is undertaken by the Council's Staff. Many other kinds of Dried Milk Foods and Nutrients are also available at the Clinics, and the Council's Scheme provides for the free issue of these to necessitous cases.

(v) *Dental Care.*

The Council's Scheme for attendance at the School Dental Clinic of expectant and nursing mothers and young children was hampered by lack of Dental Surgeons. Therefore, the Council appointed a Part-time Assistant Dental Officer on three sessions per week.

In March this year, a full-time Assistant Dental Officer was appointed.

(a)—Numbers provided with Dental Care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	9	9	9	9
Children under Five	78	78	78	78

(b)—Forms of Dental Treatment provided :

	Extract-ions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dress-ings	Radio graphs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Com-plete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	4	4	...	18	1	...	5	...	...	...
Children under Five	113	...	77	26	3	35	8	...	...	...

(vi) *Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children.*

The Maternity Department of the City Hospital provides the necessary accommodation for a wide area.

The Paediatric Department centred on the City Hospital has accommodation for marasmic and ailing babies and premature infants.

Healthy children up to the age of three are admitted to the Lache Nursery and children over the age of three to Eaton Park View, Wrexham Road, both being administered by the Child Care Committee of the City Council. Periodic examinations and examinations on admission and discharge are carried out by the staff of the Health Department.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Babies.

Where application for accommodation in Voluntary Mother & Baby Homes was made, the Chester & District Moral Welfare Association enquired into the case and found accommodation in a Home. The Council contributed towards the cost, the normal period being from six weeks before to six weeks after the expected confinement, with the possibility of extension where necessary in the interests of mother and baby.

The Council's Scheme was revised towards the end of the year to permit of smoother working.

The cases were followed up at home by the Health Visitors.

Under the Scheme, four unmarried mothers were assisted during the year, compared with seven in 1952. These were brought to the notice of the Health Committee by the Chester & District Moral Welfare Association and I would like to pay tribute to the Outdoor Worker for the work she has done in investigating and arranging for the accommodation of these cases, as well as for other Chester cases not assisted by the Corporation.

NURSING HOMES

There was one Nursing Home on the register at the end of the year. The number of available beds was 13.

NURSERY AND CHILD MINDERS (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1948.

One application for registration under the above Act was granted, subject to the maximum accommodation for ten children.

MIDWIFERY (Section 23).

The Chester City Council employs 6 Full-time Municipal Midwives for Domiciliary work, under the supervision of a Lay Supervisor (who is Superintendent Health Visitor).

The Ante Natal care of women to be confined at the City Hospital is carried out at the Hospital's Clinic, or, in the case of unmarried mothers, in the Local Mother & Baby Home, at the Council's Ante Natal Clinic.

For women to be confined at home, Ante Natal care was undertaken by their own General Medical Practitioners at their surgeries and by the Municipal Midwives at the patients' homes. Some difficulty was experienced in getting such cases to attend the Council's Ante Natal Clinic. The average visiting was once monthly for the first 7 months, then fortnightly and in the last month, weekly or more often.

There were no Midwives practising in Chester other than those in Hospital or on the Corporation Staff.

All Corporation Midwives are trained in, and have available, Gas & Air Analgesia, and the use of other analgesics, e.g. Pethidine.

Close co-operation was maintained between the Municipal Midwives and the doctors undertaking Domiciliary Midwifery, and the Medical Aid Scheme provided for adequate medical attendance at the confinement, the Doctors' fees being paid either under their arrangements with the Executive Council, or by the Corporation (if another Doctor had to be called).

34 cases were so attended.

As the Superintendent Health Visitor is also Supervisor of Midwives, there was close co-operation between these two services.

The City Hospital referred to the Health Department those cases who wished to book confinements at the Hospital, but did not fall into one of the necessitous groups, and, where home circumstances permitted, arrangements were made for confinement at home. Conversely, where home circumstances rendered home confinement undesirable, the case was referred to the City Hospital.

270 confinements were attended by the Municipal Midwives, 252 as Midwives and 18 as Maternity Nurses.

Arrangements were made for the Midwives to attend Refresher Courses at Approved Schools commencing in 1953. There was no scheme for the training of Pupil Midwives in operation.

STATISTICS.

No. of cases attended as midwives	...	...	...	...	252
No. of cases attended as maternity nurses	...	...	...	...	18
No. of ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	1816
No. of daily nursing visits	...	...	...	...	5697
No. of miscarriages attended	...	...	...	...	—
No. of cases given gas and air analgesia :—					
(a) as midwife	...	...	...	...	129
(b) as maternity nurse	...	...	...	...	8
Doctors called in by midwives	...	...	...	...	34
Notifications of artificial feeding	...	...	...	...	—

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

Total number of births notified	...	...	...	...	...	1853
Cases attended and delivered by the doctors	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cases attended in Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	221
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	...	...	...	...	...	252
Cases attended in Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	1304
Number of Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	56

Of the 252 births attended by Midwives, in 34 cases Medical Aid was required. The necessity arose from the following causes :—

Lacerated perinaeum	...	...	...	...	...	11
Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	3
Discharge from eyes	...	...	...	...	...	3
Feebleness of child	...	...	...	...	...	1
Complication before labour	...	...	...	...	...	2
Complication during labour	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complication during 'lying in' period	...	...	...	...	...	2
Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abnormality of child	...	...	...	...	...	5
Acute depression	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						34

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during the year.

HEALTH VISITING (Section 24).

Seven full-time Health Visitor-School Nurses are employed, and a Superintendent who is also Supervisor of Midwives.

The duties are approximately half School work and half Health Visitor's work. Besides the normal attendance at Ante Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, domiciliary visiting included :—

- (a) Aged sick on Hospital Waiting Lists.
- (b) Tuberculosis—Care and After Care.
- (c) Mental Defectives on licence, leave and statutory and Voluntary Home supervision; reports on home circumstances.

- (d) After Care of some patients previously dealt with under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
- (e) Visits to Problem Families.
- (f) Venereal Disease Contacts.
- (g) Cancer Research enquiries.
- (h) National Survey of Nutrition.

There was no scheme for the training of Pupil Health Visitors. Each Health Visitor attends an approved Refresher Course every five years.

In the cases of children discharged after In-Patient Treatment, the Hospitals sent to the Health Department copies of the reports to the General Medical Practitioners.

These cases were followed up by the Health Visitor-School Nurses.

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors (excluding School Nurses' work).

Primary Birth Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	854
Return Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	4290
Visits to children (1—5 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8934
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	426
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1256
Visits to Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Visits to Cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	755

HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25).

The District Nurses' Home, which is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, provided residential accommodation for six whole-time District Nurses and the Superintendent. Recruitment difficulties have obliged the Health Committee to appoint some District Nurses as Non-residential. There is close co-operation with the General Practitioners on their cases, and with the Hospitals regarding the admission and treatment on discharge of the patients.

No regular night shift is worked, but a rota of evening duties is maintained and Nurses are available at the Home for emergency night calls.

The Superintendent attends Refresher Courses when necessary, but there is no regular provision for the Nursing Staff.

Arrangements are made for the training of Pupil District Nurses at approved Training Schools.

Nursing equipment is available and during the year 141 articles were on loan.

Transport is by bicycle and public transport and a car is kept for the Superintendent's, emergency or long distance use.

Work done is shown in detail in the table which follows over the page.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

DISTRICTS	Medical		Surgical		Infectious Disease		Tuber- culosis (Surgical)		Maternal		Injections, Others		Aged 65 years and over on First Visit		Aged under 5		Cases re- ceiving more than 24 Visits		TOTAL	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
NEWTON ...	63	1433	26	659	—	—	1	41	—	—	14	513	55	1373	—	—	27	104	2646	
BOUGHTON ...	92	1695	34	1270	—	—	5	116	1	13	51	1698	89	3224	12	107	21	183	4792	
SALTNEY ...	74	1035	30	568	—	—	10	350	3	24	36	504	54	1419	4	31	26	153	2881	
HANDBRIDGE ...	57	1795	27	667	—	—	2	26	2	78	51	2299	61	2747	4	16	36	139	4865	
BLACON ...	103	1868	47	898	—	—	9	362	3	32	54	436	64	1057	30	217	40	216	3590	
CENTRAL ..	49	1659	33	954	1	1	2	27	4	43	27	464	56	1525	6	32	21	116	3148	
TOTALS ...	438	9485	197	5016	1	1	29	922	13	190	233	6314	379	11345	56	403	171	911	21028	

Number of cases on books, 1/1/53, carried over from 1952 120
 Number of new cases 791
 Number of cases on books at 31/12/53 139
 Of the 911 cases attended, 379 were aged 65 or over and, of the total
 visits (21,028), 11,345 were paid to these.
 The average number of nurses employed full time was 6
 The average number of hours worked by each daily was 7¹/₂
 The average number of hours worked by each per week was 47

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26).

Besides the facilities available at Doctors' Surgeries, Immunisation against Diphtheria is given at all Infant Welfare Clinics, and it has been the practice to hold an Immunisation Session at the Schools at the end of each School Medical Inspection.

Immunisation against Diphtheria alone is generally done, but where request was made, this was combined with Whooping Cough Immunisation.

By holding sessions at the School Medical Inspections, a good follow-up with Booster doses is maintained.

The parent of each pupil to be examined is reminded of the necessity for Booster injections.

The majority of Vaccinations are carried out by General Medical Practitioners in their own surgeries.

Pamphlets and Posters are displayed in all Infant Welfare Centres.

Details of persons Vaccinated during the year are as follows :—

AGES	NUMBER VACCINATED	NUMBER RE-VACCINATED
0—1 years	248	—
1—4 years	39	6
5—14 years	36	5
15 years and over	28	78
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	351	89
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Details of children immunised over the last 15 years and in the age groups from under 1 year to 15 years and over are shown in the table on the following page.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Age in Years 31st Dec., of the corres- ponding year.	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	Total inocu- lated 1939-1953
0	10	...	16	14	18	123	109	Age 0-4 years 1467
1	31	30	105	320	221	184	230	243	288	191	378	284	217	233	215	
2	22	5	80	202	113	80	102	108	84	294	140	74	58	70	32	
3	12	4	70	184	63	37	37	40	39	78	35	24	21	39	19	
4	...	...	21	20	54	32	29	31	44	55	30	57	27	18	20
5	58	157	74	308	88	174	118	73	84	96	61	163	48	50	76	Age 5-9 yrs Completed: 1949 1953...145 1948 or earlier ...162 3072
6	30	209	80	374	59	61	87	54	54	60	41	58	15	33	78	
7	35	201	40	201	62	28	28	44	17	51	6	17	2	20	21	
8	10	136	56	134	42	10	15	58	11	20	...	6	2	20	2	
9	17	71	54	147	43	11	12	49	12	6	2	6	3	10	1	
10	6	74	36	111	36	9	12	46	6	9	6	5	1	5	...	Age 10-14 yrs Completed: 1949-1953... 133 1948 or earlier ...2937 3070
11	2	45	17	89	30	9	2	45	13	6	8	12	3	5	...	
12	...	48	22	82	21	6	3	36	5	4	6	2	...	...	3
13	...	16	9	54	29	2	...	26	7	3	2	...	...	...	...
14	...	3	...	20	28	5	2	75	2	3	4	12	5	...	...
15 and over	18	15	3	2	Age 15 years and over 4346
Total each Year	223	999	664	2246	907	648	677	928	691	879	737	734	420	626	576	GRAND TOTAL 11955
Re- Inoculations	1987	955	609	1023	786	698	676	965	Total Re-Inoculations 7699

AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 27).

The City Ambulance Service also provides an Emergency Service by agreement for contiguous parts of the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The Staff consists of an Officer-in-Charge and 11 Driver/Attendants and 3 Attendants (Non-Drivers), with one Clerk/Telephonist. Five Ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Depot. The need for Sitting-case Cars will be met as replacements of the Ambulance vehicles are made.

Some difficulties have been experienced with the correct use of the Service, especially by Hospital Staffs, and the co-operation of the Regional Hospital Board has been sought.

Thus, the call for long Ambulance journeys has been reduced, but still too little use is made of Public Transport which is often more congenial, quicker and safer for the patient.

There still remains a tendency for Hospital Staffs to seek to engage the Ambulance Service without adequate medical necessity, though this is quite possibly a matter of expediency and lack of knowledge of the functions of the Service. Even the policy of requiring a Medical Certificate for journeys has not altogether prevented inefficiency, and it is not uncommon to receive second and third calls to Hospital which could have been covered adequately by the first Ambulance. Much more could be done to stimulate the responsibility of Hospital Staffs in this matter, and especially to reduce the length of time which Ambulances are required to wait at Hospitals and Clinics.

Much of the work has been inter-hospital and the City Ambulance Service has undertaken these journeys, but it is felt that the Service would be much more efficient if waiting time were cut to a minimum.

The periodic maintenance of the vehicles by the Transport Department has resulted in a better standard of upkeep and reliability than was possible hitherto, and credit is also due to the Ambulance Staff for their part in the care and maintenance of the vehicles.

Vehicles :—

Austin 18 h.p. First registered 1939.

Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1948.

Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1949.

Bedford 25 h.p. First registered 1951.

Bedford 15 h.p. First registered 1953 (Sitting Case Vehicle).

The table on the following page gives particulars of the work carried out during the financial year ended 31st March, 1954.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. Year ended 31st March, 1954.

AUTHORITY	JOURNEYS						PATIENTS CARRIED										MILEAGE					
	[1]			[2]			[3] Stretcher			[4] Sitting			[5] Accident and Emergency			[6]		[7]		[8]		
	Amb.	S.V.	Total	Amb.	S.V.	Total	Amb.	S.V.	Total	Amb.	S.V.	Total	Amb.	S.V.	Total	Occ.	Total [3&4]	Amb.	S.V.	Occ.	Total	
CITY ...	3601	1146	4747		156		1932	14	1946		3897	3459	7356	432	35	467	1621	9302	44487	10569	2394	55056
CHESHIRE ...	790	259	1049		...		517	6	523		294	257	551	214	15	229	117	1074	7669	1098	72	8767
FLINTSHIRE	155	50	205		...		81	2	83		68	54	122	35	4	39	...	205	1461	426	...	1887
OTHER ...	15	5	20		...		8	...	8		7	4	11	...	...	...	...	19	288	67	...	355
TOTALS ...	4561	1460	6021		156		2538	22	2560		4266	3774	8040	681	54	735	1738	10600	53905	12160	2466	66065

NOTE: AMB.—Ambulance; S.V.—Sitting Case Vehicle; OCC.—Occupation Centre. Column 1 includes Column 2; Columns 3 and 4 include Columns 5 and 6; Column 7 includes Column 8.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE & AFTER-CARE (Section 28).

(i) *Tuberculosis.*

The Tuberculosis Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board at the City Hospital is employed on one session per week for Preventive and After Care work. B.C.G. Vaccinations were done, but no special residential provision was made for these cases.

A system of weekly cross-notification between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic ensures continuity of preventive measures, and, in addition, close liaison between the Department and the Clinic has been maintained.

Contacts and After Care cases were followed up in their homes by Health Visitors. There is no special Tuberculosis Visitor on the Staff.

Residential After Care at Wrenbury Hall (County Council) Colony was provided for selected cases, and the Council also contributed towards the cost of patients at other Tuberculosis Colonies, e.g. Barrowmore.

Home Nursing Equipment was available on loan, and the Council provided a Garden Shelter in one case.

No. of patients receiving B.C.G. Vaccination through Chest Clinic	59
No. of visits to patients by Health Visiting Staff	755
No. of patients assisted in T.B. Colonies	8

The Consultant Physician at the Chest Clinic reports :—

“The figures published by the Regional Hospital Board refer to the whole area served by the Clinic, the Chester (City) figures are at least as good as the average, probably rather better.”

As a guide the Clinic gives the following details :—

Number of Contacts (City) examined at Chest Clinic	445
Number of these found to have Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS & DEATHS DURING YEAR.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
2—	...	...	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
20—	...	...	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
25—	...	...	6	6	2	0	1	1	0	0
35—	...	...	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	7	4	0	0	3	1	0	0
55—	...	...	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
75—	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	39	27	6	7	5	4	0	1

Contacts of patients notified as dying from Tuberculosis are investigated in the same way as those notified during life. Employment conditions are investigated in all notified cases and there is liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Medical Officer of Health from this aspect.

Mobile Mass Radiography Unit.

The Number 3 unit of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board visited the City from 13th March to 28th May and was centred on the Civil Defence Headquarters, Boughton. Visits were made to industrial concerns and to large communities and the following report was received from the Unit :—

	M.	F.	Total
No. of miniature film examinations	4702	5105	9807
No. recalled for ordinary X-Ray	221	136	357
No. found to have (have had) Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22	13	35
No. found to have other conditions	290	282	572

(i) *Blind Persons.*

The Chester & District Blind Welfare Society give the following data :—

	On Register		New Cases 1953		Deaths 1953	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Blind	34	45	2	14	3	7
Partially Sighted	—	8	—	2	—	—

New cases include 6 with Cataract and 1 with Glaucoma.

Two refused treatment (being over 90) and one died.

One new case, a partially sighted child, was admitted to a special school.

A.—FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Other
(i) Number of cases registered during year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends :				
(a) No treatment	—	1	1	5
(b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical) ...	6	—	—	1
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above, which on follow-up action have received treatment	1	1	—	1

B.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil.
(ii) Number of cases in which :— a. Vision lost b. Vision impaired c. Treatment continuing at end of year	Nil.

(iii) *Epileptics and Spastics.*

Epileptic and Spastic children of school age are dealt with under the Education Acts.

Three adult epileptics are known to the Welfare Department. These are accommodated in Part III accommodation. Three adult spastics are registered. Efforts were made to get suitable training in one case. The question of a class in Handicrafts for Disabled Persons was under consideration by the Welfare Authority.

A unit for spastic children at Clatterbridge Hospital was projected.

(iv) *Illness Generally.*

Besides the Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Domestic Help Schemes, nursing equipment was available from the District Nurses' Home. During the year 141 articles were loaned.

Close liaison has been maintained with Hospitals regarding home circumstances and to enable needy patients to obtain Convalescent treatment.

The Health Visitors paid 1256 visits to cases of illness.

DOMESTIC HELPS (Section 29).

Twelve full-time Domestic Helps and one Organiser were employed. There was no scheme for the training of Domestic Helps.

The shortage of Chronic Sick Hospital accommodation in Chester was reflected in the high proportion of these cases receiving domestic help. As these patients need help over long periods, it was usually necessary to give them part-time assistance. Bearing in mind the hardships and difficult circumstances of such cases, the Committee considered the appeals, in particular instances, on their merits. Sixty per cent. of the total number of hours worked were for the aged, chronic sick and infirm cases.

TYPE OF CASE	NO. OF CASES	HOURS WORKED
(a) Acute Illness	43	5643
(b) Maternity	20	2098
(c) Tuberculosis	—	—
(d) Aged, Infirm and Chronic Sick	100	14610
(e) Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency	6	196
	<hr/> 169	<hr/> 22547

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Talks were given in the Infant Welfare Clinics to groups of mothers by Health Visitors. Pamphlets and Posters were exhibited in the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dental Clinic and the Health Department.

Illustrated lectures to Food Handlers were given by the Staff during the year.

MENTAL HEALTH.

(i) *Administration.*

- (a) The Mental Health Services Sub-Committee of the Health Committee was appointed to deal with those matters which could not be dealt with in full Committee.
- (b) The Staff employed consisted of the Medical Officer of Health, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health (both of whom are approved for the purposes of the Ascertainment and Certification of Mental Defectives), two part-time Duly Authorised Officers and such services of Health Visitors as were necessary. No Psychiatric Social Workers or Mental Health workers are employed.
- (c) There was no joint use of officers of other Authorities. Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals and on leave or licence from Mental Deficiency Hospitals were supervised by the Authorised Officers, Health Visitors, or, in special cases, by the Medical Officer of Health. Reports were received from the Mental Hospitals of patients on discharge therefrom.
- (d) No duties were delegated to Voluntary Organisations.
- (e) No arrangements have been initiated for training Staff. The Medical Officer of Health attended a refresher course in London in November, 1952.

(ii) *Account of Work undertaken in the Community.*

(a) Prevention of Mental Illness, etc.

On discharge from Mental Hospital, reports were received of the patient's progress. Where the patient desired After Care, the case was visited by the Health Visitor for the district or by the Duly Authorised Officer. There were no special club facilities in operation in Chester.

(b) Under Lunacy & Mental Treatment Acts the following patients were dealt with :—

1953	Certified.		Voluntary.		Sect. 20-21		No Action		After Care Visits	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	10	15	33	49	13	25	15	16	24	49
TOTALS	...	25	82		38		31		73	
Discharged	...	2	6	24	37	4	11			
Died	...	3	8	1	...	...	...

(c) *Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38 :—*

- (i) Ascertainment of Mental Defectives is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health. In borderline cases, the policy, especially with children, has been to give them every opportunity for Education (in special classes if need be) before reaching a final decision on their non-educability. After notification to the Local Health Authority, re-examination is carried out as an additional check. Particularly difficult cases are referred to the Regional Hospital Board's Consultant Psychiatrist who has special experience in such cases.

Statutory and Voluntary Supervision is the work of the Health Visitors, though special cases may be visited by the Medical Officers. The normal period for visits is three-monthly, though it will be appreciated that stable cases may only require visits annually, and difficult cases may require more frequent supervision. Certain of these visits may also be done by the Authorised Officers.

- (ii) Guardianship: There were no Mental Defectives under Guardianship in the City of Chester.
- (iii) Occupation Centre: The Health Committee have felt the need for this Centre for some time and on Monday, 23rd November, the Centre opened at the Congregational School Rooms, Boughton.

Children who, through underdevelopment of mind, are unable to go to school, attend daily, transport being provided through the medium of the City Ambulance Service. The Centre was planned for 25 children, but is capable of expansion and, by agreement with neighbouring Authorities, children living outside the City boundary may also attend. Use of a playing-field was arranged with the Education Department and mid-day dinner and "School" milk are provided.

Specially trained Staff (the Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor) were responsible for manning the Centre and training the children in the best use of their faculties.

In the short time the Centre has been opened, attendances have increased and a great improvement has been noted in the pupils themselves.

Not all Mentally Defective children are suitable for training at an Occupation Centre. Some may suffer from frequent epileptic fits; in others their habits may make it undesirable for them to attend. Such patients are better cared for in Hospitals. Until there is sufficient accommodation for them in the Hospitals, we have been urged to accept some of them into Occupation Centres with a view to alleviating what must often be very difficult home circumstances.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938.

	During 1953				Total cases on Authority's registers as at 1.1.54			
	Under age 16	Age 16 & over	M.	F.	Under age 16	Age 16 & over	M.	F.
1. Particulars of cases reported during 1953.								
(a) Cases at 31st December, ascertained to be defective "subject to be dealt with."								
Action taken on reports by :—								
(i) Local Education Authorities on children.								
(1) While at school or liable to attend school	1	2	—	—				
(2) On leaving special schools ...	—	—	1	—				
(3) On leaving ordinary schools ...	—	—	—	—				
(ii) Police or by Courts	—	—	—	—				
(iii) Other sources	—	—	—	—				
(b) Cases reported but not regarded at 31st December, as defectives "subject to be dealt with" on any ground ...	—	—	—	—				
(c) Cases reported but not confirmed as defectives by 31st December, and thus excluded from (a) or (b)	—	—	—	—				
Total number of cases reported during the year	1	2	1	—				
2. Disposal of cases.								
(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" number :—								
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	1	2	1	—	8	7	20	13
(ii) Placed under Guardianship* ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to "Places of Safety" ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to Institutions	—	—	—	—	1	1	30	23
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" number :—								
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	8
(ii) Action unnecessary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Item 2	1	2	1	—	9	8	54	44

*Number of defectives under Guardianship on 1st January, 1954, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9 :—

MALES—Nil. FEMALES—Nil.

	During 1953				Total cases on Authority's registers as at 1.1.54			
	Under age 16	M.	F.	Age 16 & over	Under age 16	M.	F.	Age 16 & over
3. Classification of defectives in the Community on 1st January, 1954.								
(a) Cases included in item 2 (a) to (iii) above in need of institutional care :—								
(1) In urgent need of institutional care :—								
(i) "cot and chair" cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
(iii) medium grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
(iv) high grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Not in urgent need of institutional care :—								
(i) "cot and chair" cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1
(iii) medium grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
(iv) high grade cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Item 3 (a) ...	—	—	—	—	4	4	6	2

(b) Of the cases included in items 2 (a) (i) and (ii) and 2 (b) (i) overleaf, number considered suitable for :—

	Under age 16		Age 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(i) occupation centre ...	5	4	6	5
(ii) industrial centre ...	—	—	1	1
(iii) home training ...	—	—	2	1
Total of Item 3 (b) ...	5	4	9	7
(c) Of the cases included in item 3 (b) number received training on 1-1-54 :—				
(i) in occupation centre ...	5	3	2	3
(ii) in industrial centre ...	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home ...	—	—	—	—
Total of Item 3 (c) ...	5	3	2	3

4 Number of Mental Defectives who were in Institutions, under Community Care (including Voluntary Supervision) or in "Places of Safety" on 1st January, 1953, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1953.

	M.	F.	T.
(a) Ceased to be under care ...	—	—	—
(b) Died, removed from area, or lost sight of	1	3	4
Total	1	3	4

5. Of the total number of mental defectives under Supervision or Guardianship or no longer under care.

(a) Number who have given birth to children while unmarried during 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
									Males	Females
(b) Number who have married during 1953	...	Nil							Nil	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47, and the Amendment Act, 1951, three cases were dealt with during the year.

Two of these were admitted to Hospital and subsequently died.

The third, living in insanitary conditions in an alms-house, was admitted to Part III accommodation in Sealand House. On subsequent visiting she had settled down well and was much improved in physical health.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

(1) Residential Nurseries.

The Medical Officers carried out routine examinations of the Children in the Lache Day Nursery (Children's Department) and of those in the Children's Home, Eaton Park View on admission, discharge and special occasions.

Both the homes come under the care of the Child Care Committee.

(2) Superannuation Examinations.

Staff of all Corporation Departments were examined by the Medical Officers for the purpose of determining their fitness for (a) Employment (b) Entry into the various Sickness Pay Schemes (c) Entry into the Corporation Superannuation Scheme. Thus, during the year 338 examinations were made, excluding the examinations of entrants to the teaching profession or to training College (which are reported in the report of the School Medical Officer).

WATER.

The City water supply is derived from the River Dee and is supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works.

The standard of purity, absence of bacillus coli in 100 c.c.'s of the water as supplied to the consumer has been maintained during the year.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following tables give the result of these analyses, which conforming to the recognised standard method of reporting results are shown in parts per million of water.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1953.

Parts per 1,000,000 of Water	...	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution	...	200.0	160.0	160.0	220.0	100.0	240.0	200.0	90.0	200.0	140.0	240.0	220.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates...	...	2.0	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.0	1.25	1.0	0.75	0.63	0.25	0.62	1.0
Nitrites	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	30.0	26.0	18.0	25.0	25.0	26.0	31.0	20.0	17.0	17.0	22.0	19.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F.	...	0.50	0.59	0.33	0.59	0.42	0.52	0.67	0.46	0.65	0.61	0.74	0.54
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	0.05	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.02	0.02	Nil	Nil	0.04	Nil	0.02	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.04
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical Examination of Sediment	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness	...	75.0	60.0	35.0	55.0	55.0	60.0	70.0	40.0	30.0	30.0	35.0	45.0
Permanent Hardness	...	75.0	30.0	20.0	25.0	25.0	40.0	25.0	20.0	20.0	10.0	40.0	25.0
PH Value	...	7.0	6.8	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.9
Residual Free Chlorine	...	0.10	0.10	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.04

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1953.

INSPECTION OF AREA

Environmental Hygiene.

Complaints received in respect of nuisances	727
Visits in respect of nuisances	4987
Dwellings : inspections and re-inspections re :—	
(a) Notifiable diseases	147
(b) Food poisoning investigations and visits ...	294
(c) Vermin	125
(d) Overcrowding	58
(e) Prospective Corporation Tenants	313
(f) Dustbins	42
(g) Defects and repairs	3488
(h) Other purposes	386
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	62
Rooms disinfested for vermin	93
Rats and Mice Destruction, visits	3491
Drainage work :—	
(a) Inspections	2439
(b) Tests applied	477
Smoke abatement, observations, etc.	55
Factories, visits	369
Common Lodging House, visits	3
Schools, inspections	44
Shops Act, inspections	856
Licensed premises, inspections	179
Cinemas and Theatre, inspections	16
Stables, visits	13
Squatters' Camp, visits	15
Offensive trades (excluding Fish and Chip Shops), inspections	21
Offices, inspections	178
Waste ground and common passages, inspections	59
Tents, Vans and Sheds, inspections	7
Other business premises (excluding Factories)	88
Canal Boats, inspections	15
Rag Flock premises, visits	22
Brooks and Streams, inspections	43
Piggeries	1
Pet Shops	27

Food Hygiene, etc.

Inspections of Dairies, Milk Shops, &c.	169
Inspections of Butchers' Shops	167
Inspections of Bakehouses	86
Inspections of Fishmongers	50
Inspections of Greengrocers	99
Inspections of Ice Cream premises	156
Inspections of Public Market	73
Inspections of Hotels (Catering)	17
Inspections of Restaurants and Cafes	116
Inspections of General Provision Shops	487
Inspections of Fish and Chip Shops	38
Inspections of Other Food Premises	232
Inspections of Canteens	40

Administration.

(a) Number of letters sent re nuisances	1157
(b) Number of Preliminary Notices served	223
(c) Number of Statutory Notices served	24
(d) Legal Proceedings in default	NIL

The majority of nuisances are remedied by informal action and the co-operation of those concerned.

HOUSING.

Undertakings to close for human habitation the under-mentioned fourteen houses were accepted by the City Council, under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1 & 2, Union Court	1, Blacon Hall Cottages
1, Green Lane Cottages	The Bungalow, Sealand Road
7, Park Terrace	20, Union Terrace
7, Victoria Buildings	2 & 3, Edwards Court
2, Globe Court	8, The Mount
17, Goss Street	8, Pepper Street

These houses were not capable of being made fit for human habitation at reasonable expense. By the end of the year twelve of the houses had been vacated, and the tenants re-housed by the Corporation.

It is increasingly difficult to call for extensive and costly repairs to sub-standard houses with a small weekly rent, in view of such high cost being unreasonable within the meaning of Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 313 visits to homes of applicants about to be re-housed by the Corporation to ascertain the state of cleanliness and to obviate vermin being transferred to new houses.

It was only necessary to disinfest rooms and contents in fourteen instances.

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

PART B.—Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

		NUMBER OF	
			PERSONS
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.	HOUSES	DISPLACED	
(1) <i>Housing Act, 1936.</i>			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section II	2	6	
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II, and still in force	11	27	
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	Nil	Nil	
(2) <i>Housing Act, 1949.</i>			
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	Nil	Nil	
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	Nil	Nil	
(3) <i>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</i>			
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	Nil	Nil	
		NUMBER OF	
REPAIRS.	HOUSES		
<i>INFORMAL ACTION.</i>			
(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts			564
<i>ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.</i>			
(5) <i>Public Health Acts.</i>			
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :			
(a) by owners			23
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...			Nil
(6) <i>Housing Act, 1936.</i>			
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) :			
(a) by owners			Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...			Nil

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

In the City, smoke pollution comes chiefly from domestic chimneys and the railway.

Fifty-five observations were made of factory chimneys and six complaints of excessive smoke investigated. These nuisances were abated by informal action. Two instances of smoke pollution from burning of disused 'bus bodies on waste land were also dealt with by informal action.

Numerous complaints have again been received from areas in the vicinity of the Leadworks, regarding smells of a burning rubber type and sulphurous fumes.

Following informal action taken last year, the Management installed fans and ducts to carry effluent from the main blast furnaces to the large 160 feet high chimney stacks. A new 120 feet steel chimney has also been erected to take filtered gases from the lead ore smelting furnace.

These installations must have diminished atmospheric pollution from these sources, nevertheless, complaints still continued to be received, especially during adverse weather conditions.

Investigations were carried out in conjunction with the Inspector of Alkali, etc. works, who has been informed of all the complaints received and has visited the works on several occasions.

In November, the members of the Health Committee, officials and the Inspector of Alkali, etc. works, met the Management at the works and made a tour of inspection.

Most of the material received for smelting consists of used lead and batteries and it is probable the treatment of this material is the major source of the nuisance. The Management are concerned in effecting any work possible in order to obviate nuisances and thus improve efficiency of the plant.

They are constantly carrying out improvements to flues, fans and filters, and have assured us their efforts to obviate cause for complaint will continue.

CANAL BOATS.

The number of boats using the canal has continued to fall as in previous years.

Fifteen canal boats were examined during 1953, none of which required service of complaint notes.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

As last year, there is only one registered Common Lodging House, for males only, in the City.

This received three surprise and routine inspections during 1953.

RODENT CONTROL.

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a consolidated grant of 50 per cent. of the approved net expenditure, incurred during the financial year 1953-54 is made to Local Authorities. Certain conditions relating to organisation, employment methods, staffing and the carrying out of effective procedure have to be complied with to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Corporation sewers, surface properties and private houses are treated free of cost. Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred by the treatment of commercial or industrial premises, the costs being fully re-imbursed by the occupiers so that no charge falls on public funds.

Rodent control in Corporation sewers has been intensified. Two "maintenance" and one "test bait" treatments being carried out during the year.

The results of these treatments are shown in the following tables :

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 2/52/53.
23rd February to 20th March, 1953.

Man holes treated	Prebait takes (1)				Prebait takes (2)				Poison takes				Estima- ted kill.
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
301	120	43	67	71	115	38	70	78	—	31	145	125	690

Bait base :— Bread mash plus Poison—Arsenic.

C—Complete take.

G—Good.

S—Small.

N—No take.

Sewer Test Baiting.
July, 1953.

No. of Manholes Tested	Result			
	C.	G.	S.	No Take
92	1	1	—	90

Test baiting with damp sausage rusk was applied in the areas of the City having modern piped sewers, as from practical experience the old sewers of the City are known to be rat infested.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 1/53/54.
24th August to 18th September, 1953.

Manholes Treated	Prebait Takes (1)				Prebait Takes (2)				Poison Takes				Rats Destroyed
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
290	93	35	84	78	82	47	78	83	—	38	131	121	612

Bait base :— Sausage rusk plus Poison—Zinc Phosphide.

There is little doubt that effective treatment of the sewers reduces the complaints from surface properties. In built-up areas such infestations are eventually traced to defective drains and the complaints remedied following repairs.

The sewers and Corporation refuse tips remain the major source of infestation in the City. The tip, sewage works and land adjoining are kept under routine observation and received ten treatments during the year.

The rodent staff (1 Foreman and 2 Operators) are engaged for a total of approximately four months annually in the treatment of sewers, sewage work and refuse tips alone.

In addition to the 2548 visits paid to manholes by the Rodent Staff, 3491 visits were also made by this Staff and Sanitary Inspectors to surface properties during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

Estimated total of vermin destroyed : RATS—7172 ; MICE—6750.

The result of searches, complaints and the services to premises in the City is shown in the following table :—

TYPE OF PROPERTY		LOCAL AUTHOR- ITY	DWELL- ING HOUSES	AGRI- CULT- URAL	All other (including Business & Industrial)	TOTAL
I	Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	93	12908	14	2399	15414
		(a)				
		36	229	—	123	388
II	Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1953/54 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or (c) otherwise	(b)	347	14	233	651
		(c)	—	—	12	12
		Major 23	10	1	13	47
III	Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats	Minor 20	142	3	39	204
IV	Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice	26	64	—	65	155
V	Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority	73	298	—	118	489
VI	Number of notices served under Section 4 :—	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(1) Treatment					
	(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
VII	Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
VIII	Legal Proceedings	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
IX	Number of "block" control schemes carried out :					

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The above-mentioned Act came into operation on 1st November, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles or other articles which are stuffed or lined.

The Act requires the licensing of premises where filling materials are used for upholstering, stuffing or lining of bedding, toys or baby carriages but, unfortunately, excludes premises where these articles are remade or reconditioned.

Twenty-two visits were made to premises within the City but only one came within the purpose of the Act and received a licence.

One sample of Loose Washed Flock (50% wool) was submitted to the Prescribed Analyst for examination and was certified to be in accordance with the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Act.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following are registered to sell milk in the City in accordance with the above Regulations :—

Premises registered as Dairies	6
Purveyors and Shopkeepers retailing bottled milk only	24
Purveyors with premises outside, retailing in City ...	13
	<hr/>
TOTAL	43
	<hr/>

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk within the City during the year ended 31st December, 1953 :—

(a) Pasteuriser's Licence	1
(b) Dealer's Licences :—	
(i) T.T. Milk	24
(ii) Pasteurised Milk	37
(iii) Sterilized Milk	10
(c) Supplementary Licences :—	
T.T. Milk	5

FOOD HYGIENE.

(FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, SECTION 13 AND BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15).

The Chief and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspectors have continued to give lectures and demonstrations on the principles of hygiene and the dangers involved in the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene to staffs of food premises and numerous organisations.

A special meeting was arranged with the co-operation of the Director of Education and the School Meals Organiser, at which the Chair was taken by a member of the Health Committee. The Medical Officer of Health gave an address and the Chief Sanitary Inspector a lecture on Food Hygiene and Food Poisoning. The meeting was attended by all the School Meals Staff and a film "Another Case of Food Poisoning" was shown.

The recording and detailed inspection of food premises has again progressed during the year.

Detailed inspections have been made and on initial inspection the premises were classified according to (a) suitability of premises (b) type and condition of equipment (c) methods employed and (d) general standards of hygiene.

Initial inspections for this purpose numbered 145 and re-inspections 157.

Where necessary, the attention of proprietors and management was called by interview and letter to defects, &c., requesting co-operation in order to advance the grading classification of these premises.

Such co-operation has been willingly given, resulting in a marked improvement in the standard without need for statutory action.

The work carried out included :—

- (i) Repairs to walls, ceilings, floors, doors and windows, etc.
- (ii) Painting of walls, ceilings and woodwork.
- (iii) Provision of adequate ventilation and lighting.
- (iv) Removal of refuse, etc., and regular cleaning of premises, etc.
- (v) Personal cleanliness, overalls, etc.
- (vi) Provision of wash basins, sinks, and hot and cold water supply, soap and clean towels, etc.
- (vii) Food storage accommodation and refrigerators.
- (viii) Provision of sanitary accommodation.

The following table gives the state of classification of food premises inspected and re-inspected to the end of 1953, since commencement of the scheme : —

	Classification on First Inspection	Classification of same premises at end of 1953
Excellent	24	40
Good	144	151
Fair	92	98
Poor	60	36
Bad	5	—
Totals	<hr/> 325 <hr/>	<hr/> 325 <hr/>

NOTE.—Excellent means first class in all respects, Good means minor defects only, Fair means few small defects in structure, equipment or methods, Poor means below standard generally and Bad means very unsatisfactory.

The increase in the number of premises attaining high standards of classification and the decrease in the numbers below grade denotes the satisfactory progress of this work.

FOOD POISONING—INVESTIGATIONS.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 294 investigations and re-visits to suspected cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and collected 285 specimens of food, faeces, &c. for bacteriological examination.

OTHER BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

Nine samples of cream confectionery were bacteriologically examined and reported to be free from pathogenic organisms.

The following is a list of the food premises in the City.

TYPE	NUMBER	TYPE	NUMBER
Bakehouses	20	Kiosks	4
Brewery	1	Licensed Victuallers	103
Butchers' Shops	65	Wholesale Meat Depot ...	1
Cake Shops	21	Mineral Water	
Cheese Factor	1	Manufacturers	2
Cooked Meat Shops	3	Mobile Canteen	1
Dairies	6	Restaurants and Cafes ...	69
Egg Packing Station	1	School Kitchens	16
Fishmongers	16	School Meals Centres	10
Fried Fish & Chip Premises	26	Slaughterhouse	1
General Stores	11	Sweet Manufacturers	2
Greengrocers	51	Sweet Shops	34
Grocers and Provisions ...	101	Tripe Shops	2
Hotels	24	Wholesale Grocers	5
Ice Cream Manufacturers	8	Works & Stores Canteens	15
Ice Cream Wholesale			
Depots	2		

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Section 14).

The following premises are registered in the City for :—

	NO. OF	
	PREMISES	INSPECTIONS
(a) The sale, manufacture for sale, or storage of ice cream intended for sale	170	156
(b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	25	56

ICE CREAM.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953, came into operation on 1st June, 1953.

The Order provides that Ice Cream must contain at least 5% fat, 10% sugar and 7½% milk solids other than fat. The standard applies

to any products (including those supplied in catering establishments) which are sold as "ice cream" or "ices", but does not apply to water ices sold as such or to "ice lollies".

An Amendment Order in which the standard was reduced as from 7th July, 1952, when the required fat content became 4% and the milk solids other than fat 5%, was therefore revoked.

The fat content of the nine samples analysed is shown in the following table :—

FAT CONTENT PER CENT.								
Standard 5 and 4 per cent.	5 and under 6	6 and under 7	7 and under 8	8 and under 9	9 and under 10	10 and under 11	11 and under 12	12 and over
Number of Samples	1	—	—	2	—	2	2	2

The samples also satisfied the tests for sugar content, and milk solids other than fat.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

During the year, 57 samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The following table sets out the results :—

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES
Grade 1—Satisfactory	54
Grade 2—Satisfactory	2
Grade 3—Unsatisfactory	1
	—
TOTAL	57
	—

In the case of the one unsatisfactory sample, the premises, utensils and methods were examined and following up samples were found to be up to standard (Grade 1).

All the premises, &c. on which ice cream was manufactured, stored or sold were regularly inspected and the condition of utensils, methods, etc. found to comply with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952.

LICENSED PREMISES.

179 visits were made to licensed premises and a comprehensive report submitted to the Licensing Justices.

Special attention has been directed to hygiene and the provision of sanitary accommodation. Particular attention has also been paid to the condition of beer cellars, especially in regard to the type and condition of piping from barrel to pump, cleanliness, structural condition, ventilation and drainage of floor.

Such work had been requested and was in hand or completed by the year end at twelve licensed premises. Extensive new drainage work, &c. has also been carried out under supervision at four other premises.

No complaints were received regarding unclean drinking utensils, &c. but this gives no room for complacency.

The generally high standard of hygiene in licensed premises within the City was maintained.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1938.

The following tables show (1) the samples submitted to the Public Analyst (H. Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) during the year, and (2) the administrative action taken in respect of samples certified to be not genuine.

Article.	Number Examined			No. Adulterated, &c.		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	23	46	69	—	1	1
Ice Cream	—	9	9	—	—	—
Ice Lolly	—	6	6	—	1	1
Beer	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tea	—	2	2	—	—	—
Salad Cream	—	2	2	—	—	—
Orange Squash	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	2	2	—	—	—
Butter	—	2	2	—	—	—
Margarine	—	2	2	—	—	—
Whisky	2	—	2	—	—	—
Baking Powder	1	2	3	1	1	2
Phosphate Compound	1	1	2	1	1	2
Ground Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	—
Grape Nuts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Savormix	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fruttamix	—	1	1	—	—	—
Frucadian Sandwich	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rum Flavoured Sauce Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pea Nut Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pork Sausages	—	1	1	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Malt Vinegar	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Coffee	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dressed Crab	—	1	1	—	—	—
Salmon Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Self Raising Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Table Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gravy Browning	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Curd	—	1	1	—	—	—
Honey	—	1	1	—	—	—
Self Raising Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Oxo	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cocoa	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugared Strands	—	1	1	—	—	—
Blancmange Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Table Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Suet	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato Ketchup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Frizet	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake Flour	—	1	1	—	1	1
Pancake	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mint Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Celery Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato Chutney	—	1	1	—	—	—
Strawberry Jam	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—	—
Continental Mustard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cookimalt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sauce	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mushroom Ketchup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese and Tomato Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Orange Juice	—	1	1	—	—	—
Custard Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jelly Beans	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chewing Gum	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mixed Pickles	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk Chocolate	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of Chicken Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Processed Peas	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marmite	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Stout	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	27	133	160	2	5	7

TABLE II.

Table showing administrative action taken in regard to samples certified to be not genuine.

SAMPLE NO.	ARTICLE	RESULT OF ANALYSES	REMARKS	ACTION TAKEN
Informal 56	Cake Flour	Swarming with live mites.		The whole of the consignment of this brand of cake flour was immediately withdrawn from sale, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.
Informal 88	Milk	5% deficient in fat (2.85%) also low in solids not fat (8.40%). No added water. Freezing point normal.	Formal Sample No. 92 Genuine. Milk not roused continuously during bottling—T.T. Milk.	Warning letter to producer.
Informal 95	Phosphate Compound	Low in phosphates and high in tartaric acid. Sod. bicarbonate 5.5%, Sod. phosphate 4.3%, Na_2HPO_4 Tartaric acid (total) 55.2%. Deteriorated by moisture.	See Formal Sample No. 120.	
Informal 108	Ice Lollies	Lead 1.0 parts per million. Zinc 20.0 parts per million. Amount of lead and zinc are excessive and undesirable.		Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
Informal 116	Baking Powder	Low in carbon dioxide. (Carbon dioxide 3.3%).	See Formal Sample No. 119.	
Formal 119	Baking Powder	62% deficient in available carbon dioxide.	Doubt as to age and deterioration of product whilst in retailers possession.	Attention of manufacturers called to results of analyses. Retailer warned and remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed.
Formal 120	Phosphate Compound	77% deficient in sodium bicarbonate.	Very old stock.	Warning letter to retailer. Remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed.

MILK ANALYSES, 1953.

Total Samples analysed	...	...	...	...	...	69
Number certified "not genuine"	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for fat	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for solids not fat	...	...	...	...	...	2

(One of these was counted as genuine as Freezing Point was normal and sample contained no added water).

Average quality (Standards—Fat 3%, Solids not fat 8.5%) :—

Fat	...	...	...	...	3.78%
Solids not fat	...	...	...	...	8.75%

EXAMINATIONS OF MILK FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Nineteen samples of milk were sent to the Medical Research Laboratory, Birkenhead, for examination for the presence of tuberculosis of bovine origin.

The samples consisted of T.T. milk (18) and Undesignated milk (1).

All were certified to be negative.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES.

Results of the various tests applied to 125 samples of milk submitted for examination are shown in the following table :—

DESIGNATION	NO. OF SAMPLES	TEST APPLIED	NUMBER	
			PASSED	FAILED
Pasteurised	33	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	33	—
			33	—
Certified T.T.	67	Methylene Blue Coliform	66	1
			67	—
T.T. Pasteurised ...	24	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	24	—
			24	—
Undesignated	1	Methylene Blue	1	—

NOTES :—

- The "Phosphatase Test" denotes efficient pasteurisation.
- The "Methylene Blue Test" assesses keeping qualities.
- Presence of coliform bacillus indicates faecal contamination.

The attention of the Producer and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was called to an unsatisfactory sample. A subsequent sample proved to be satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act came into operation on 1st April, 1951, and regulates premises on, and conditions under which, pets are housed and sold.

Six premises have been licensed under the Act and 27 re-inspections made during the year. All the premises complied with the terms of their licences.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Fifteen renewal licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year.

SLAUGHTERING IN THE CITY.

All slaughtering was carried out at the Public Abattoir, the Ministry of Food paying headage charges.

Animals slaughtered during 1953 :—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	3403
Calves	...	...	...	...	3395
Sheep	...	...	...	...	13995
Pigs ...	...	...	...	...	3276
TOTAL					<u>24069</u>

The total figures show an increase of 589 animals compared with 1952.

Meat Marking is carried out at the Abattoir where a Meat Inspector, who also acts as Abattoir Superintendent, is on permanent duty.

Ante-mortem inspections are made of all animals and notes taken of any abnormalities which might assist in the subsequent post-mortem examinations which are carried out on every animal slaughtered.

The weight of food condemned during the year amounted to :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat and offals	...	...	43	14	1	18
Other foods	...	...	8	1	3	23
TOTAL			<u>51</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>

The Ministry of Food arranged removal of all condemned meat and offal. This is dyed green before removal and a certificate issued by the Ministry certifying that such meat will not be used for human consumption. All other foodstuffs are removed by the Local Authority and destroyed at the refuse tip.

The following tables show (1) percentage of animals affected with disease and (2) details of all food condemned.

TABLE I.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1953.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1671	1732	3395	13995	3276
Number inspected	1671	1732	3395	13995	3276
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	11	19	27	39
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	444	575	4	811	132
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	26.56	33.8	0.68	5.9	5.2
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	5	35	5	—	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	179	559	1	—	233
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	11.0	34.7	0.18	—	7.5

The 51 complete carcasses and offal of beef condemned during the year were sent to the Abattoir from the following sources :—

Source	Generalised tuberculosis	Diseases other than tuberculosis	TOTAL
From Cattle Market for food	33	1	34
Casualty animals sent by Veterinary Surgeons	1	9	10
Cattle sale rejects	1	1	2
For slaughter under Tuberculosis Orders	4	—	4
Seized under Chester Corporation Act ...	1	—	1
TOTALS ...	40	11	51

CHESTER CORPORATION ACT, 1929.

It was necessary to seize, under the Chester Corporation Act, 1929, (Section 81), a black and white cow brought into the Cattle Market and intended for sale for human food, the animal being emaciated and diseased.

Legal proceedings were instituted and the defendant was fined £5 plus £5 5s. od. costs.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

Twenty-seven cases were discovered during the year (14 in 1952). The carcasses were passed to the Ministry of Food for freezing treatment.

The following table shows the distribution of the cysts.

	Masseter muscles of cheek only	Heart only	Total
Cows	14	1	15
Heifers	5	—	5
Bullocks	5	2	7
TOTAL	24	3	27

TABLE II.
UN SOUND FOOD.

Article.	No.	Reason for Condemnation.
BEEF.		
Whole carcasses and offal	38	Generalised tuberculosis
„ „ „ „ „ „	3	Septic metritis
„ „ „ „ „ „	3	Febrility
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Tuberculosis with emaciation
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Oedema
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Toxaemia
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Uraemia
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Johnes disease and emaciation
Quarters	37	Localised tuberculosis
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Contusions
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Inflammation
VEAL.		
Whole carcasses and offal	7	Febrility
„ „ „ „ „ „	4	Oedema
„ „ „ „ „ „	3	Congenital tuberculosis
„ „ „ „ „ „	3	Immaturity
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Pyæmia
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Umbilical pyæmia
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Generalised tuberculosis
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Enteritis
PORK.		
Whole carcasses and offal	21	Febrility
„ „ „ „ „ „	13	Generalised tuberculosis
„ „ „ „ „ „	7	Oedema
„ „ „ „ „ „	6	Septicaemia
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Inflammation
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Uraemia
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Peritonitis
„ „ „ „ „ „	1	Septic metritis
MUTTON.		
Whole carcasses and offal	18	Febrility
„ „ „ „ „ „	4	Oedema
„ „ „ „ „ „	3	Enteritis
„ „ „ „ „ „	2	Septicaemia
VISCERA, etc. (lbs.)	66224	Localised tuberculosis, parasitic and other conditions.

UNSOUND FOOD—continued.

Article.	lbs.	Reason for Condemnation.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
9143 tins of fish, meat, soup, vegetables, etc.	9130	Pierced, blown, etc.
1065 tins of condensed and evaporated milk	1002	"
Tinned Ham	2529	Pierced, blown, decomposed
Tinned Pork	95	"
Beef and Pork Sausages	500	Decomposed
Chicken	3	"
Pressed Beef	5	"
Bacon	156	"
Frozen Liquid Egg	270	"
Black Puddings	21	"
Cheese	15	"
Cooked Beef	80	"
Geese	5	"
Imported Beef	752	Internal decomposition
Oatmeal	7	Must
Vermicelli	8	"
Mixed Nut Kernel	56	Weevil
Desiccated Coconut	4	Mites
Mixed Spices	35	"
Sponge Powder	16	Contaminated
Cheese	182	"
Fruit Cake	67	Mould
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.		
Tomatoes	78	Decomposed
Sultanas	60	Mites
Dried Apricots	84	"
Currants	362	"
Raisins	62	"
Potatoes	1904	Potato disease
Sultanas	7	Mould
Seedless Raisins	31	"
Iraq Dates	72	"
Haricot Beans	50	Weevil
FISH.		
Haddock	56	Decomposition
Plaice Fillets	107	"
Cod Fillets	84	"
Smoked Fillets	42	"
Dover Sole	70	"
Mackerel	42	"
Kippers	56	"
Halibut	16	"

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1953.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local authorities	82	42	10	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	254	327	27	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	336	369	37	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	3	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	20	12	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	27	14	—	4	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK
(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel {	Making, etc. ...	7	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning & Washing	—	—	—	—	—

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Hoole Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1953.

The local statistics continue to be satisfactory and compare favourably with the National figures. A summary of the chief items is given below, together with those for England and Wales and the smaller towns.

The Death Rate is 10.44 per 1,000 population compared with 8.10 in 1952. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.4 and for 160 smaller towns 11.3.

The Birth Rate is 15.07 per 1,000 population compared with 15.56 in 1952. The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 15.5 and for 160 smaller towns 15.7.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 21.4 per 1,000 live births, compared with 20.8 in 1952. The figure for England and Wales is 26.8 and that for 160 smaller towns 24.3.

Thirty-five cases of Whooping Cough and 19 cases of Measles were notified in 1953 compared with 20 and 39 respectively in 1952. 5 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and for the seventh consecutive year there was no case of Diphtheria. 10 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, compared with 5 in 1952.

I should like once again to express my appreciation of the support received from the Public Health and Highways Committee and the co-operation and assistance of the staff of the Public Health Department during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. E. RUSSELL,
Medical Officer of Health,

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	672
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population	
mid-1953	9286
Number of Inhabited houses	2724
Rateable Value	£53,465
Gross Product of rd. Rate	£222/15/5

The District remains mainly residential in character. A large proportion of the population is engaged in Railway and Transport Services, in Distributive Trades and various industries at Shotton, Ellesmere Port and Helsby.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births.			
Legitimate	64	68	132
Illegitimate	4	4	8
	—	—	—
	68	72	140
	—	—	—

Birth Rate—15.07 per 1,000 population (15.56 in 1952).

Birth Rate for England and Wales—15.5 per 1,000 population.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Still Births.			
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	3	4
	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—27.7.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population—0.29.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales—0.35.

Table of Comparable Birth Rates, 1943-1953.

YEAR	NO. OF BIRTHS HOOLE U.D.	BIRTH RATE HOOLE U.D.	BIRTH RATE ENG. AND WALES
1943	158	18.64	16.5
1944	178	20.90	17.6
1945	134	15.98	16.1
1946	181	20.77	19.1
1947	210	23.85	20.5
1948	157	17.53	17.9
1949	135	14.90	16.7
1950	152	16.67	15.8
1951	136	15.07	15.5
1952	144	15.56	15.3
1953	140	15.07	15.5

INFANT MORTALITY.

During 1953 there were 3 deaths under 1 year in the Hoole Urban District.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live Births	...	21.4
In 1952 it was	...	20.8
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	...	26.8
Infant Mortality Rate for 160 smaller towns	...	24.3

Table of Comparable Infant Mortality Rates 1943-1953.

Rate per 1,000 live Births.

YEAR	HOOLE U.D.	ENG. AND WALES
1943	44.3	49
1944	28.0	46
1945	44.4	46
1946	60.7	43
1947	57.1	41
1948	25.4	34
1949	37.0	32
1950	Nil	29.8
1951	14.7	29.6
1952	20.8	27.6
1953	21.4	26.8

DEATHS.

Total—97.

Males—51.

Females—46.

Natural Increase in Population (excess of births over deaths) is 43.

Death Rate 10.44 per 1,000 population 8.10 in 1952).

Death Rate for England and Wales—11.4 per 1,000 population.

Table of Comparable Death Rates 1943-1953.

YEAR	NO. OF DEATHS	DEATH RATE	DEATH RATE
	HOOLE U.D.	HOOLE U.D.	ENG. AND WALES
1943	88	10.38	12.1
1944	100	11.17	11.6
1945	98	11.69	11.4
1946	89	10.21	11.5
1947	101	11.47	12.0
1948	83	9.26	10.8
1949	100	11.50	11.7
1950	100	10.97	11.6
1951	131	14.51	12.5
1952	75	8.10	11.3
1953	97	10.44	11.4

Of the 97 deaths in the district—

33 were due to Heart Disease.

17 were due to Malignant Neoplasm.

Of the 97 deaths—

19 were over 80 years of age, and

63 were over 65 years of age.

27.8% of the deaths occurred in Public Institutions.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Number of persons dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth :—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—
Total				Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1953.

	MALES	FEMALES
Tuberculosis-Respiratory	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm-All Sites	9	8
Leukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	6
Coronary Disease-Angina	10	1
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	2
Other Heart Disease	6	10
Other Circulatory Disease	4	4
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	2	1
Gastritis-Enteritis-Diarrhoea	1	—
Nephritis	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
Other Defined & ill defined diseases	2	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	—	1
Total	51	46

Natural Increase in Population (i.e. excess of births over deaths) for past 10 years is shown in the following table :—

Per 1,000 population.

YEAR	POPULATION	HOOLE U. D.	ENGLAND AND WALES
1943	8,474	8.26	4.4
1944	8,500	9.1	6.0
1945	8,392	4.3	4.7
1946	8,711	10.5	7.6
1947	8,804	11.2	8.5
1948	8,956	8.2	7.1
1949	9,043	3.8	5.0
1950	9,113	5.7	4.2
1951	9,024	0.55	3.6
1952	9,253	7.46	4.0
1953	9,286	4.6	4.1

Prevalence of, and control over, infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1953.

DISEASE							CASES	
							NOTIFIED	DEATHS
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	—
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	—
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	—
Total							69	4

		1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Scarlet Fever ...	...	16	15	8	8	26	13	3	17	8	5
Diphtheria ...	...	12	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	...	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Pneumonia ...	...	9	6	5	10	3	3	3	4	5	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	21	9	13	2	46	25	37	45	20	35
Measles ...	...	9	116	148	39	105	74	54	56	39	19
Inf. Paralysis ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puer. Pyrexia ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cere.-spinal Fever ...	...	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Typh. & Para-Typh. ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1953.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 . .	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65 . .	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . .	6	4	—	—	1	—	—	—

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the area.

The following services are available :—

(a) Laboratory Facilities. Chemical and Bacteriological examination of water is carried out once yearly. Examination of milk and ice cream are carried out regularly.

Throat swabs are examined in cases of suspected Diphtheria and any other tests necessary in investigating infectious disease are carried out as required.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, which has been organised under the National Health Service Act, 1946, under the direction of the Medical Research Council has a branch at Birkenhead. Here free bacteriological examinations of milk and water and other specimens are carried out for local authorities.

The Pathological Laboratories at the Chester Royal Infirmary and Chester City Hospital may also be used.

(b) Ambulance Services for Hoole are administered by the South-West Division in conjunction with the City of Chester. The service has been entirely satisfactory and ambulances are always available on request by authorised persons.

(c) Nursing Services are also administered by the South-West Division and have been appreciated by the residents. The District Nurse lives at 86, Faulkner Street, Hoole, and can be summoned by telephone.

The Health Visitors of the County Council also visit the homes of the district in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis Schemes.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres. The following were provided for Hoole by the Cheshire County Council :—

SCHOOL CLINIC. This was held every morning (except Wednesday) for the treatment of children with minor complaints.

School children with defective eyesight were examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon of the County Public Health Department who attended during the year. Dental treatment was given by appointment by the School Dental Surgeon. Medical Inspection of School children was carried out by the County Authority.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC was held on the second Thursday in each month. During the year 21 expectant mothers made 46 attendances.

POST-NATAL CLINIC was held monthly on the fourth Thursday in each month. During the year 24 mothers made 48 attendances.

The County Dentist attends for ante-natal and post-natal mothers and for toddlers by appointment.

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC. This was held every Tuesday. it was a very popular centre and was well attended.

During the year there were 150 new cases making total attendances of 1,832 in the 0—5 year groups.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC. Patients from Hoole attend at the Chester Royal Infirmary, where hospital treatment when required is carried out.

VENEREAL DISEASES. Patients from this area are sent to the Chester Royal Infirmary where they receive specialised treatment.

(e) Hospitals. The Hospitals in the Chester District are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and are administered by No. 13 Chester and District Hospital Management Committee.

Surgical cases and emergencies are dealt with at the Chester Royal Infirmary. Medical and Maternity cases are dealt with at the Chester City Hospital.

All Isolation Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. The Isolation at Clatterbridge receives infectious cases for the Hoole Urban District.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

All Water in this district is supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The Supply is constant and adequate for all needs. With the exception of 10 houses which are supplied from a standpipe, all the houses in the District have their water supplies directly from the works to the houses. A sample is taken from this District once yearly. The report on the examination which was entirely satisfactory was as follows:—

Chemical Examination and Sample of Water.

In parts per Million of water:—

Total Solid matter in solution	240.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.12
Nitrates	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	29.00
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	
in 4 hours at 80°F.	1.26
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.28
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.09
Lead. Copper. Zinc.	Nil
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	Nil
Temporary Hardness	60.00
Permanent Hardness	65.00
pH. Value	7.1

The above Chemical Analysis is satisfactory.

Bacteriological Examination of Sample of Water.

Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on Agar plates, incubated at 20.22° C. for three days							0 per ml.
Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on Agar plates, incubated at 37.5° C. for two days							0 per ml.
Bacillus Coli	...	...	...	...	...	...	Absent in 100 ml.

Report: This is a satisfactory report

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Water carriage system is general in the District with the exception of 13 houses—10 of which have Elsan closets and 3 septic tanks.

The sewage is finally dealt with at the outfall works of the Chester City Council with whom this district has an agreement.

The Elsan closets are emptied once weekly.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse is made, two properly covered lorries being used for the purpose.

By arrangement with Chester R.D.C. tipping is carried out on various tips in their area.

SALVAGE.

During the year, the following materials were collected and sold for Salvage purposes :—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d
Waste Paper	99	7	1	0	686	6	9
Rags	2	6	2	12	46	12	3
Bagging		1	0	18		9	4
String		2	2	3		13	2
Rubber		1	1	18		19	11
Lead		3	0	14		9	7 9
Aluminium		7	1	19		20	8 10
Copper		1	3	2		10	8 4
Brass		4	2	6		16	11 2
Iron	10	10	3	0		52	13 9
Kitchen Waste	5	18	0	0		21	14 8
Zinc			2	24		1	1 1
	119	5	1	4	£869	7	0

RODENT CONTROL.

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, a grant is made to local authorities equal to one half of the expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their functions under Part I of the Act so far as not recovered thereunder, subject to certain conditions relating to organisation, methods, staffing and administrative procedure.

Private houses are treated free of cost but a charge is made in respect of the treatment of commercial and industrial premises.

One part-time operative is employed.

During the year, a total of 260 inspections were made, as a result of which 14 premises were treated.

One "Maintenance" and one "Test Bait" treatment of the public sewers was carried out. In the former case, 15 manholes were treated and in the latter, 40. No takes were recorded on either occasion.

The regular sewer treatments over the past few years have considerably reduced the rat population in the area.

SCHOOLS.

The two Church Schools in the District have now been taken over by the Education Authority and various outstanding works relating to Sanitary defects have been carried out.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND ACTION TAKEN.

NATURE AND PURPOSE OF INSPECTIONS	NO.	ACTION TAKEN, AND RESULT			IN HAND
		INFORMAL	FORMAL	NO. OF CASES IN WHICH NUISANCES ABATED OR DEFECTS REMEDIED, ETC.	
Sanitary Defects, Housing Act, 1936, and Nuisances, &c., Public Health Act, 1936	74	48 Tel. calls 117 Letters	6 Stat. Notices	72	2
Unserviceable Dustbins	10	—	10	10	—
Revisits to work in progress, etc.	238	—	—	5 by Council	—
Privies and Septic Tanks	2	—	—	4 by Owners	—
Drainage Inspections and Tests (New Housing)	24	—	—	1 by Occupier	—
(Miscellaneous)	5	—	—	—	—
Piggeries	1	—	—	—	—
Factories	16	—	—	—	—
Dairy Premises and Milk Shops	3	—	—	—	—
Butchers' Shops, Wet Fish Shops & Fried Fish & Chip Shops	8	—	—	—	—
Premises used for manufacture and/or sale of ice cream	16	—	—	—	—
Treatment for Vermin	1	—	—	—	—
Rat Infestations—Inspections	260	—	—	—	—
—Treatments	14	—	—	—	—
Schools	2	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

(1) *Inspections.*

PREMISES (1)	M/C LINE NO. (2)	NUMBER ON REGISTER (3)	NUMBER OF			M/C LINE NO. (7)
			INSPEC- TIONS (4)	WRITTEN NOTICES (5)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	16	16	Nil	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	3	5	5	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL ...		21	21	Nil	Nil	

(2) Cases in which Defects were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	M/C LINE NO. (2)	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				NO. OF CASES IN WHICH PRO- SECUTIONS WERE INSTITUTED (7)	M/C LINE NO. (8)
		FOUND (3)	REMEDIED (4)	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR (5)	BY H.M. INSPECTOR (6)		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences relating to outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ...		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	

SECTION D.

HOUSING

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.	
(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	74
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	312
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	74
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	67
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ...	Nil
(a)	By owners ...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	6
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	5
(a)	By owners ...	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	1
C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil

●

SAUSAGE AND PRESERVED FOODS.

Five of the butchers shops are registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture and sale of sausage. Following inspection, it was found necessary to call for extensive repairs and structural improvements at one premises and for the provision of a piped water supply, a suitable sink and proper drainage arrangements at another.

MILK SUPPLY.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

The Register kept under the above Regulations shows the following entries :—

Distributors	...	...	...	...	10
Dairy Premises	...	...	...	...	1
Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	2

There are three dairy farms within the district. These are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The dairy premises and milk shops were inspected periodically and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

The following licences were issued under the above regulations :—

Dealers' Licences :—

(1) T.T. Milk	...	...	...	4
(2) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	4

Supplementary Licences :—

(1) T.T. Milk	...	...	...	5
(2) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	8
(3) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	1

Bacteriological Samples :—

The results of the examination of 13 samples of pasteurised milk for compliance with the prescribed standards are shown in the following table :—

TEST	NUMBER	
	PASSED	FAILED
Methylene Blue	10	3
Phosphatase	13	—

NOTE. (1)—The "Phosphatase Test" denotes efficient pasteurisation.

(2)—The "Methylene Blue Test" assesses keeping qualities and cleanliness.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The undermentioned articles of food were voluntarily surrendered by their owners in order that they might be destroyed^l or so disposed of as to prevent them from being used for human consumption :—

ARTICLE	REASON FOR CONDEMNATION
6 tins shoulder ham (55 lbs. 10 ozs.)	Putrefaction
3 tins cooked pork (10 lbs. 10 ozs.)	„
1 tin ox tongue (6 lbs.)	„
3 tins veal and ham luncheon meat (12 lbs.)	„

FOOD ADULTERATION.

Sampling and analysis of food and drugs under the Adulteration Provisions of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, is carried out by the Cheshire County Council and the following report has been kindly furnished by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council :—

List of Samples obtained in the Hoole Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1953 :—

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Butter	1	—
Cheese	1	—
Cooking Fat	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Meat Paste (Beef)	1	—
Milk	8	—
Yeast Tablets	1	—
	<hr/> 14	<hr/> Nil

Report.—A highly satisfactory result.

